



General | 6/1/2015 11:18:00 AM | MSU Moorhead

Dragon and Golden Eagle Athletics and NCAA Break New Ground at NSIC SAAC Summit



MOORHEAD, Minn. – 34 student-athletes and 17 Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Liaisons broke new ground at the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference on the Minnesota State University Moorhead campus this week as the University of Minnesota Crookston and Minnesota State University Moorhead hosted the NSIC SAAC summit

Working within the theme of "Developing the Leader Within" NCAA Associate Director Josh Looney and NCAA Consultant Jill Wilson launched two new partnerships that will be rolled out across NCAA Division II in the coming months at the NSIC SAAC Summit.

"It was an unbelievable experience for our student-athletes," said MSUM Athletic Director Doug Peters. "Having Josh and Jill bring their programming and sharing their experiences and insights made for a fantastic summit."

The first launch was focused around the NCAA's Digital Leadership partnership with the best-selling author of Socialnomics, Erik Qualman. A former NCAA student-athlete, Qualman has been called a digital Dale Carnegie and programming was centered around his latest book "What Happens on Campus Stays on YouTube". Sharing concepts such as being FLAWsome and creating an understanding of the difference between a student-athletes digital footprint, digital stamp, and digital shadow created a social media savvy learning experience for student-athletes and administrators.

NCAA representative Kristen Matha also introduced inaugural programming focusing on increasing awareness around inclusion and LGBTQ topics. Derek Schell, the first openly gay NCAA Division II student-athlete joined in and shared his story providing summit participants a unique look at his experiences throughout his final year as a collegiate athlete.

Another ground breaking session included the community engagement segment at Robert Asp Elementary School in Moorhead. Traditionally, the community engagement has been a service project for the host community. This year the SAAC Summit helped conduct a field day that included running races, long jumps, bubble contests, and sack races.

The student-athletes also spent significant time with institution presidents who were on campus for the NSIC Board of Directors meetings. Interaction began with round table discussion focusing on sexual violence, communication on campus, mental health issues, and inclusion. Presidents, student-athletes, and other administrators then gathered for the first ever combined social hour and dinner.

In addition to the development sessions student-athletes and liaisons had working opening and business sessions. In the opening session Commissioner Erin Lind shared initiatives and changes that resulted from the 2014 NSIC SAAC Summit including the league wide championship memento program and the weekly NSIC Experience television show that highlights all 17 NSIC sports.

For the first time during the business session the student-athletes and liaisons had a split meeting before joining together to close out the summit. The student-athlete segment was led by Katie Mnichowicz, the NSIC's NCAA Division II SAAC Representative who is also the first student-athlete to serve on NCAA Division II's management council. Agenda items included discussion on increasing the voice of the student-athlete on campus and within the conference. The student-athletes also discussed and choose mental health as the awareness topic for the upcoming year.

UMC was represented by Assistant Women's Basketball Coach [Kamille Wahlin](#) and women's golfer Rikki Roscoe at the SAAC summit.

For more information, visit the Golden Eagle Athletics website at www.goldeneaglesports.com.

Follow the Golden Eagles on Facebook at Golden Eagle Sports and on Twitter at @UMCAthletics.

The University of Minnesota Crookston is a NCAA Division II university located in the Red River Valley of Northwest Minnesota. UMC sponsors 11 intercollegiate athletic teams with membership in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate conference (NSIC) and the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). The NSIC is a 16-team conference with schools situated in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

-30-

[Print Friendly Version](#)

Related Stories

01.27.23



Minnesota Crookston has 10 Student-Athletes Earn Prestigious NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Accolades

09.26.22



UMN Crookston Announces Partnership with Sports Psychologist Erin Haugen, Ph.D.; Haugen to Present Keynote Wednesday in Kiehle Auditorium

06.15.22



Minnesota Crookston Announces Hiring of Nick Stone as Fitness and Wellness Center Coordinator/Strength and Conditioning Coach

05.26.22



Minnesota Crookston Has 34 Student-Athletes Named to 2022 NSIC Spring All-Academic Teams

05.24.22



UMN Crookston Athletics Names 86 Student-Athletes to 2021-22 All-Academic Team

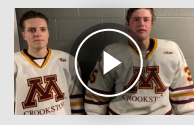
Related Videos

03.13.23



Post-Game vs. D'Youville and Illinois-Springfield

02.26.23



Post-Game Reaction vs. Michigan State: Jackson Fuller and Jared Aamold

02.26.23



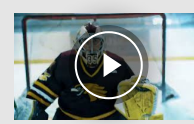
Post-Game Reaction vs. Michigan State - Steve Johnson

02.10.23



Mike Roysland Post-Game vs. MSU Moorhead

02.06.23



2022-23 Minnesota Crookston Hockey Hype Video



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

© 2023 University of Minnesota Crookston Athletics

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer